Effective steps to revive PSUs

527. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have not taken any effective steps to revive the sick industrial Undertakings;

(b) whether the decisions taken in each case by BIFR were not based on realistic basis; and

(c) if so, the acts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government are making various efforts to revive and rehabilitate the potentially viable and revivable sick enterprises.

(c) Does not arise.

Permission to Coca-Cola for Investment in India

528. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have permitted the Coca-Cola and six other foreign companies for investment in India;

(b) if so, the names of these companies with terms and conditions;

(c) whether such provisions also stipulated that these foreign companies will also transfer technology of their Enterprises to existing Indian Units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) Sir, During the post-policy period (Aug. 1991-September 1997), 11815 number of Foreign Collaborations have been approved by the Government. These include 4932 proposals of technical collaboration and 6883 proposals in which FDI is also involved. The proposal of M/s. Coca Cola is also included in these. The details of such proposals viz; name and country of Foreign Collaborator, equity investment involved, item of manufacture/activity are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to the Monthly News-letter and copies of these are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library.

With a view to injecting the desired level of technological dynamism in Indian Industry, Government have substantially liberalised approval procedures for foreign technical collaborations. These include an automatic approval facility, relaxation in norms for hiring foreign technicians and foreign testing of indigenously developed technologies. Indian companies have been given freedom to negotiate the terms of technology transfer with their foreign counter-part according to their commercial judgement.

Financial autonomy to PSUs

529. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nine Public Sector undertakings have been given financial and functioning autonomy;

(b) if so, give names of such Institutions;

(c) whether such a move will benefit the country in any way;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (e) The Government have given substantial financial and functional autonomy under Navratna package to nine PSUs to help these enterprises to become global giants. This move is expected to benefit the PSUs, and consequently the economy and the country also by making them even more competitive, profitable and of a global